

Region IX Injury Prevention Network
Vol. 1 Issue 1, March 2001

Dear members:

We are very excited to be launching the first issue of our electronic newsletter. We are hoping that it will help keep us connected and expedite the way we share information with each other. Please note that if you hit "reply", your e-mail will be sent to everybody on the list.

As this is the first issue we welcome any comments and feedback. What would type of information would be most helpful to you? Should we have a feature article? How does the formatting work on your web browser? Any suggestions for a title? You may respond to me at leslie@preventioninstitute.org, or to the Network secretary at lois.williams@emsa.ca.gov For those of you not familiar with our membership list, we are currently updating it and should be able to include it with our next newsletter.

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CALIFORNIA:

"Shifting the Focus" is an interagency and multidisciplinary violence prevention initiative in the California State Government. Over 30 departments in California's state government agencies as well as representatives from local violence prevention agencies, state commissions and state organizations are working using a collaborative strategy to reengineer state government away from isolated efforts. This approach will ensure that California's communities are well served through practice at the state level that supports success at the local level.

This initiative has two primary goals:

- 1) To facilitate the state's violence prevention efforts to significantly reduce the incidence of violence over time
- 2) To build community infrastructure to help preserve these movements

The Prevention Institute will be facilitating local hearings during the month of March 2001 to 1) learn from local prevention practitioners and decision makers about state practices, policies and programs that either support or hinder their local work,; 2) to gather information on best practices around collaboration efforts that have proven successful at the

local level to ensure the state can adopt these as models as they move their efforts forward.

The hearings will furthermore allow practitioners to provide testimony about their experiences with state government to a panel of representatives of state agencies.

A report will be written with the findings to the Attorney General which will be used to create a blueprint for the states continuing efforts. For more information go to www.preventioninstitute.org

The National Safe Kids Campaign recently announced their "grade" list for all states and their child occupant protection laws. Nearly half of all states got failing grades. California was the only state that got an "A". This was attributed to the booster seat law passed in 2000. States can view how well they did by going to www.safekids.org

Lois will be representing State Emergency Medical Service on the Traffic Safety Among Older Adults Task Force

The California Department of Health Services/Maternal Child Health Branch just announced funding of five California counties for childhood Injury Prevention projects. Most of the grants will be for \$45,000 per year for three years.

The Strategic plan entitled Investing in Adolescent Health: A Social Imperative for California's Future, was released on January 9. The MCH Branch was the major funder of the staff at UCSF (National Adolescent Health Information Center) to produce the plan for a state-wide Adolescent Health Collaborative. The plan is available on line at <http://youth.ucsf.edu/nahic> <<http://youth.ucsf.edu/nahic>> . Single copies of the printed plan are available from the National MCH Clearinghouse at 888-434-4624.

A monograph about Proposition 10 and Injury Prevention is available from the Prop 10 TA center at www.cchi.org <<http://www.cchi.org>>

NEVADA

We have hired a new Injury Prevention Coordinator in our state. Her name is Kristen O'Gorman. She started in the position in January, and is making strides to move the program forward. She will also be a member of the network. You can reach her at (775) 684-4299, or krivas@govmail.state.nv.us

Frank Sakelarios has moved from being the Injury Prevention Coordinator to the Sexual Assault Prevention Coordinator. His new contact information is (775) 684-8014 fsakelar@govmail.state.nv.us He is also responsible for providing technical support to the Rural Community Health Clinics that operate in Nevada. He sees this as a great opportunity to promote Injury Prevention within the Rural Communities. He will be working closely with the Injury Prevention Program to make some inroads into these communities. This also a good opportunity for the State of Nevada to collaborate many efforts into a solid program. Since Sexual Assault ties right in with other areas of Injury Prevention he envisions that there will be many good things accomplished in the next few years in our state.

The new Highway Safety Coordinator for the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety is Julie Butler (775) 687-5720. jbutler@dps.state.nv.us

HAWAII

The Hawaii State Department of Transportation Safe Community Traffic Safety Annual Report has been released for the Federal fiscal year 2000. Statewide last year, there were 17,679 motor vehicle restraint citations issued, including 1,272 child restraint citations. During that time period, 10 4-day CPS trainings, and 7 2-day trainings, we held. There were 85 community carseat checkups, and Hawaii now has a total of 23 fitting stations. A total of 2,640 carseats were checked last year. There were 1,122 calls to the Keiki Car Seat Hotline during 2000. For more information or copies contact Gordon Hong at 487-6302

Invited by the Keiki Injury Prevention Coalition (KIPC) the Prevention Institute recently facilitated a 1 1/2 day strategic planning retreat for the Unified Approach to violence prevention, a consortium of organizations and individuals that are working together on violence prevention. The Prevention Institute has been instrumental in unifying violence prevention efforts in Hawaii. KIPC is using the Spectrum of Prevention Model developed by the Prevention Institute to develop a new action plan. Hawaii is working on a comprehensive Traumatic Brain Injury Action Plan. The goal is to work with the whole service delivery system in areas such as collaboration, funding, public policies and public awareness. For more information on Traumatic Brain Injury call 941-0372.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

The California Fire Chiefs Association has announced that Assemblyman Rod Pacheco will be carrying a bill, known as the Fire bill, that if passed would be one of the most significant and beneficial legislative acts for California's Fire Service, in recent times. In short, the bill would provide for \$100 million for use by fire departments to enhance training, equipment, personnel, education and prevention(!) programs. The bill is out from Legislative Council and is ready to move forward. The proposed time lines for introduction of the bill is within the next two weeks, at which time a bill number will be assigned.

There is currently a bill before the Nevada legislature to repeal the helmet law for motorcycles. The bill would allow those riders over the age of 21 to make their own decision on whether or not to wear a helmet. The Injury Prevention Program has teamed up with others to try and kill this bill. The Assemblyman that sponsored the bill was quoted as saying, "As long as it does not affect others it should be the riders choice. I feel that this is a matter of free choice, and it will not hurt anyone else." For more information on the bill, you may access it through the Nevada Legislative website at www.leg.state.nv.us The bill is AB 88.

This year the KIPC is sponsoring a booster seat bill for children between the ages of 4 and 8. The Senate and House Transportation Committees both passed this bill with slight amendments. The Graduated Licensing bill passed its hearing with amendments. The Bike Ed bill (SB843) was passed with amendments by the Education Committee on February 2. Due to be heard are

bills pertaining to pedestrian safety, scooter helmets, and truck bed passengers. A Neurotrauma bill would establish a special fund to rehabilitation services, prevention, and trauma registry. Bills to provide funding for Peer Education are SB132, HB93 and SB785. For more information on the status of traffic safety bills, contact Eric Tash at 586-5942. For the status of KIPC-supported bills contact Therese Argoud at 586-5941.

CONFERENCES

California's Fourth Annual EMS for Children Conference will be held November 13-14, 2001, in San Diego. This year's conference will be titled "Answering the Questions". To learn more about the conference and anticipated speakers, workshops, etc., you may contact our new (since October) EMSC Coordinator (and new Region IX Network member!), Michael Conley, at mconley@emsa.ca.gov

The 20th Annual Lifesavers Conference will be held in Denver on March 24-March 27. This year's conference addresses a wide range of highway safety and injury prevention topics. To register, visit the Lifesavers web at www.lifesaversconference.org

The annual California Childhood Injury Control Conference, which is sponsored by the California Department of Health Services MCH Branch and presented by the California Center for Childhood Injury Prevention, will be September 4-6, 2001

This concludes the Network's first Electronic Newsletter. Information will be forthcoming regarding deadlines for the next newsletter's information. Thank you for your input.